

SORTED-PAGED RETRIEVAL OF HIERARCHICAL
DATA FROM RELATIONAL DATABASES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for sorted-paged retrieval of hierarchical data from a relational database is disclosed, which includes the use of one or more relational table equi-join terms in a query to increase the retrieval efficiency, suitable restrictions imposed on the join terms to further increase the retrieval efficiency, partial de-normalization or replication of information to improve the efficiency of the join operation(s) and thus further increase the retrieval efficiency, and proper cursor management to keep track of the current location of the cursor(s) involved. As a result, specific pages of objects can be efficiently retrieved from a database, while the specified sort orders and restrictions imposed by the original retrieval requests can be maintained.

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